

*New Business  
October 1, 2019*

# **TESTIMONIAL RESOLUTIONS AND SPECIAL PRIVILEGE**

## DETROIT CITY COUNCIL

65

# Testimonial Resolution

## In Memoriam

# Mother Queenie Hunter

**WHEREAS**, We, the members of the Detroit City Council, recognize and bestow homage upon the late, **MOTHER QUEENIE HUNTER**, who made her heavenly transition on September 16, 2019; **and**

**WHEREAS**, **QUEENIE** was born on January 28, 1926, in Eclectic, Alabama, a small town located in Elmore County. She was the seventh child born to the union of Viola Matilda (Robinson) Thompson and Johnnie Henry Thompson. **QUEENIE** had eleven siblings: Samuel Jones, John Wesley, Cora Bell, Mary Etta, Sessie Lee, Johnnie Mae, Clara Dora, Clarence Caleb, Hollywood, Carrie Marie and Naomi Annie. She graduated from Elmore County Training School and received a basketball scholarship to attend college; **and**

**WHEREAS**, **QUEENIE** met and married Bennie Wright. To this union one child was born, Johnnie Daniel, who preceded her in death. She later moved to Detroit, Michigan, to be with her best sister, Clara Dora. On her first day in Detroit, **QUEENIE** met the true love of her life, Percy. This union brought forth a beautiful daughter, Queenie. The couple created their legacy and enjoyed life to the fullest together for forty-three years, until Percy made his transition to join the Ancestors in 1993; **and**

**WHEREAS**, For over sixty years, **QUEENIE** was a dedicated, active member of her beloved church, Undenominational Church of God, under the leadership of Bishop Earl Baptiste. The church was later renamed United Prayer Temple Baptist Church (UPTBC), under the pastoral leadership of Reverend Ananias Holland. She served in various capacities: Missionary, Church Secretary, Executive Board Member, Sunday School Superintendent for over thirty years, and also was the Harvest Queen many times. On May 6, 2018, she moved her membership to New Mt. Olive Primitive Baptist Church, under the leadership of Pastor Carl J. Curry. Above all things **QUEENIE** totally loved to serve the Lord. The Word of God was embedded in her. She could quote scripture instantly and she prayed relentlessly; **and**

**WHEREAS**, The “Queen” truly lived a life full of love and grace. She enjoyed traveling around the world and attended the Robinson/Westbrooks Family Reunions every year until she was no longer able to. **QUEENIE** leaves a legacy of memories, three sisters, Clara Dora, Carrie Marie and Naomi; her loving and devoted daughter Queenie; grandchildren, William Donnell, Valerie (preceded her in death), Latiste, Katija, Tsighie and Angela; great-grandchildren and great-great grandchildren; adopted son, Jessie (Louise); god-daughters, Clarice, Beverly, Bernice, Evelyn and Lizzie; many favorite nieces, nephews and cousins; her best friend of more than ninety-years, Elsie; and a host of awesome, loving friends. **MOTHER QUEENIE HUNTER** has been a good servant and ensured that her impact would be forever embedded in the hearts of those she cherished for years to come. **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT**

**RESOLVED**, That the Detroit City Council and Council President Brenda Jones extend our deepest sympathy and join with family and friends to celebrate the life of **MOTHER QUEENIE HUNTER**.

*Mary Sheppard*  
COUNCIL PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE  
*Janet D. Scott*  
COUNCIL MEMBER  
*Scott Benson*  
COUNCIL MEMBER  
*Raquel Castañeda-Jones*  
COUNCIL MEMBER

*Brenda Jones*  
COUNCIL PRESIDENT

*Rabia Khan*  
COUNCIL MEMBER  
*Adrienne J. Davis*  
COUNCIL MEMBER  
*James E. Holley*  
COUNCIL MEMBER

September 21, 2019

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## RESOLUTION

In Memoriam

# *Thomas Fontaine Stallworth, Jr.*

## *“Pops”*

WHEREAS, We, the members of the Detroit City Council, join the family and friends of Mr. Thomas Fontaine Stallworth, Jr. in honoring his life and legacy. Mr. Stallworth made his heavenly transition on September 18, 2019, after a life well-lived. We pause to offer sincere condolences to his loving and devoted wife of 68 years, former State Representative Alma Stallworth; his eldest son, Thomas III; second son, KB; daughters-in-law, Nic Wells-Stallworth and Nicole Stallworth; grandchildren Thomas IV (Aja), Joseph, Misha, Tonie, KB Wellington, Madison, Lance and Harrison; Godson Clifford; brother William; two great-grandchildren and many, many other relatives and friends; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Stallworth's mother, Lucy Stallworth, was an entrepreneur and instilled a good work ethic and business mind in young Thomas. As a young boy, he developed an ingenious business plan to have a paper route that covered Southwest Detroit, Dearborn, River Rouge, Ecorse and Inkster. Instead of carrying all of the papers across the large area, he strategically hid wagons with papers along the route to make for easier and quicker delivery! Like many smart men of today, Thomas offered profit sharing to friends who made paper deliveries for him and he had multiple bank accounts to save his earnings. Mr. Stallworth's business savvy and financial acumen continued throughout life. He graduated from Southwestern High School and initially attended Wilberforce University. He transferred to Wayne State University (then Wayne University) and completed studies in Accounting. He also was a veteran having served in the Marines. Mr. Stallworth was a dedicated husband to the lovely Alma, and a strong role model for Thomas III and KB. Mr. Stallworth worked two jobs to provide for his family. His hard work allowed the Stallworths to become one of the first of three African-American families to integrate into a largely Jewish Northwest Detroit neighborhood in 1962; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Stallworth passed the civil service exams with the City of Detroit and the State of Michigan and had a long career in accounting. While working for the State of Michigan, Mr. Stallworth held the positions of comptroller at the State Mental Health Hospital; Lead Auditor with the Michigan Department of Social Services; and ultimately, the State of Michigan, Director of Internal Audit for Wayne County Social Services. For many years he worked two jobs – he was an accountant by day and a salesman by night. He was a humble man who did not boast of his own professional accomplishments. Mr. Stallworth was the first African-American employed at Hudson's in Northland Mall. He was affectionately known as "The Tax Man" because he helped people with their taxes right up until the 2019 season. Mr. Stallworth also was called "Mr. Hudson's" due to his 41 years of service as a salesperson at the store. Despite working many hours for many years, Mr. Stallworth enjoyed his leisure activities of discussing politics, listening to and collecting jazz and blues albums, gardening, playing cards, and telling jokes; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Stallworth also was a man ahead of his time because he was content to work as a civil servant and let his wife, Alma, follow her dreams and run for public office. He even became her campaign treasurer. He supported Representative Stallworth for over two decades in public service. He ensured the Stallworth family was good at home so she could ensure the well-being of her constituents. Then, when Mrs. Stallworth became ill, he continued to care for and support her – even learning home medical treatments and how to cook; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Thomas Fontaine Stallworth, Jr., leaves a legacy of strength, dignity, and service. Earthly reminders of this are his sons, Thomas III and KB, their children, and others whose lives were touched and made better by Mr. Stallworth. The hard work, sacrifice, and selflessness of Mr. Stallworth not only benefitted his family, but also so many in the City of Detroit and the State of Michigan. He will be greatly missed, and his contributions and lessons taught will live on forever. As the Bible says in Matthew 25:21, "*Well done good and faithful servant! As you have been faithful with a few things here on earth; I will put you in charge of many things in the kingdom of heaven.*" NOW, THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, That the Detroit City Council and office of Council President Brenda Jones, join with family and friends in honoring the life and legacy of Mr. Thomas Fontaine Stallworth, Jr. – affectionately known as "Pops."

*Mary Shellee*  
COUNCIL PRESIDENT PRO TEM  
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*John D. Do*  
COUNCIL MEMBER  
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*John D. Do*  
COUNCIL MEMBER  
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*Raquel Castañeda-Jópez*  
COUNCIL MEMBER

COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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September 24, 2019

DATE

*Dale G. Land*  
COUNCIL MEMBER  
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*Andrea S. Jones*  
COUNCIL MEMBER  
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*Jane Doe*  
COUNCIL MEMBER

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